

**VA RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs response to COVID-19 across the VA enterprise, after receiving testimony from Paul R. Lawrence, Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, and Richard A. Stone, Executive in

Charge, Veterans Health Administration, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**INTELLIGENCE**

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

---

# House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 25 public bills, H.R. 8906–8930; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 126; and H. Res. 1253–1255, were introduced. **Pages H7109–10**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H7111–12**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3632, to ensure that authorizations issued by the Secretary of Transportation to foreign air carriers do not undermine labor rights or standards, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–636); and

H.R. 5756, to amend the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to extend the provision of assistance for critical services with respect to certain disasters, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–637). **Page H7109**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7049**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:33 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H7059**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021, and Other Extensions Act:* H.R. 8900, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 343 yeas to 67 nays, Roll No. 240; **Pages H7062–66, H7092–93**

*Reaffirming the commitment to media diversity and pledging to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity:* H. Res. 549, reaffirming the commitment to media diversity and pledging to work with media entities and diverse stakeholders to develop common ground solutions to eliminate barriers to media diversity; **Pages H7066–67**

*Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act:* H.R. 3361, to amend the Energy Policy

Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives; **Pages H7067–68**

*Tribal Power Act:* H.R. 5541, amended, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to reauthorize programs to assist consenting Indian Tribes in meeting energy education, planning, and management needs; **Pages H7068–72**

*Timely Review of Infrastructure Act:* H.R. 1426, to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to address insufficient compensation of employees and other personnel of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; **Pages H7072–74**

*Ceiling Fan Improvement Act of 2020:* H.R. 5758, to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to make technical corrections to the energy conservation standard for ceiling fans, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 396 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 241; **Pages H7074–76, H7093**

*Medical Marijuana Research Act:* H.R. 3797, amended, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to make marijuana accessible for use by qualified marijuana researchers for medical purposes; **Pages H7076–83**

*Amending title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening:* H.R. 1570, amended, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening; **Pages H7083–86**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening, and for other purposes.”; **Pages H7085–86**

*Directing the Comptroller General of the United States to complete a study on barriers to participation in federally funded cancer clinical trials by populations that have been traditionally underrepresented in such trials:* H.R. 1966, amended, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to complete a study on barriers to participation in federally funded cancer clinical trials by populations that have been traditionally underrepresented in such trials; **Pages H7086–88**

*Amending title XXX of the Public Health Services Act to provide for a technical correction to provide the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Service certain authorities with respect to investigations of information blocking:* H.R. 7898, amended, to amend title XXX of the Public Health Services Act to provide for a technical correction to provide the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Service certain authorities with respect to investigations of information blocking; and **Pages H7088–92**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to consider certain recognized security practices of covered entities and business associates when making certain determinations, and for other purposes.”. **Page H7092**

**Senate Referrals:** S. 1869 was held at the desk. S. 3325 was held at the desk. S. 3729 was held at the desk. S. 4138 was held at the desk. S. 4460 was held at the desk.

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H7092.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7092–93 and H7093.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### 1890 LAND GRANT INSTITUTIONS—130 YEARS OF BUILDING EQUITY IN AGRICULTURE

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research held a hearing entitled “1890 Land Grant Institutions—130 Years of Building Equity in Agriculture”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### FORT HOOD 2020: THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FORT HOOD INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Fort Hood 2020: The Findings and Recommendations of the Fort Hood Independent Review Committee”. Testimony was heard from the following Fort Hood Independent Review Committee officials: Chris Swecker, Chair; Jonathan Harmon, Member; Carrie Ricci, Member; Queta Rodriguez, Member; and Jack White, Member.

### DIPLOMACY OR DEAD END: AN EVALUATION OF SYRIA POLICY

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Diplomacy or Dead End: An Evaluation of Syria Policy”. Testimony was heard from Joel D. Rayburn, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Levant Affairs and Special Envoy for Syria, Department of State.

### INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE CLOSING CIVIC SPACE

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “International Human Rights and the Closing Civic Space”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### PIPELINES OVER PEOPLE: HOW FERC TRAMPLES LANDOWNER RIGHTS IN NATURAL GAS PROJECTS

*Committee on Oversight and Reform:* Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties held a hearing entitled “Pipelines Over People: How FERC Tramples Landowner Rights in Natural Gas Projects”. Testimony was heard from David L. Morenoff, Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and Terry Turpin, Director, Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

### THE TOXIC WORLD OF PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE CONNECTION DETERMINATIONS: WHY SHOULD OUR VETERANS WAIT?

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “The Toxic World of Presumptive Service Connection Determinations: Why Should Our Veterans Wait?”. Testimony was heard from Beth Murphy, Executive Director, Policy and Procedures, Compensation Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Elizabeth H. Curda, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.